

STRANGER THINGS

#108

THE UPSIDE DOWN

Dr. Brenner holds Hopper and Joyce for questioning while the boys wait with Eleven in the gym. Back at Will's, Nancy and Jonathan prepare for battle.

EXT. HAWKINS LAB – NIGHT

JOYCE (O.S.): Let me out of here!

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce sits in a chair at a table, hands handcuffed behind her back through the back of the chair. She struggles against the cuffs.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Somebody, please!

Joyce continues to struggle against the cuffs.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Let me out!

Joyce looks up at the door as it unlocks. Brenner walks into the room and closes the door behind him, staying in the shadows. Joyce watches him.

BRENNER: Your son. We know you've been in contact with him.

Brenner moves to stand next to the table.

JOYCE: You have to let me-

BRENNER: When...and how did you make contact with him.

JOYCE: What?

BRENNER: Hmm? Six.

JOYCE: What?

BRENNER: Six.

Brenner takes his jacket off, slinging it over the back of the other chair. He leans forward, hands on the back of the chair. Joyce looks at him.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Six people have been taken this week. This...thing that took your son...we don't really understand it. But its behaviour is predictable.

Brenner pulls the chair back and sits down.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Like all animals...it eats. It will take more sons. More daughters. I want to save them. I want to save your son. But I can't do that. Not without your help.

JOYCE: Stop. I know who you are. I know what you've done. You took my boy away from me! You left him in that place to die! You faked his death! We had a funeral. We buried him. And now you're asking for my help? Go to hell.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NIGHT

The head of security presses a taser into Hopper's neck, zapping him. Hopper groans and falls to the floor, leaning against the wall. He looks up at the head of security, breathing heavily.

LEAD AGENT: Okay, now what do you know?

Hopper looks over to see Connie and the Lead Agent in the room, the pair looking at him.

HOPPER: I'm sorry. Did I stutter? I told you. Everything.

The head of security tases Hopper again. Hopper groans, spitting up water.

CONNIE: What do you know?

HOPPER: I know you do experiments on kidnapped little kids, whose parents' brains you've turned to mush. And I know you went a little too far this time and you messed up in a big way. I mean, you really messed up, didn't you? Big time. That's why you're trying to cover your tracks. You killed Benny Hammond, you faked Will Byers' death. You made it look like that little girl just ran away. See, I told you. I know everything.

LEAD AGENT: All right, who are you working with?

HOPPER: Nobody. But I did give all this over to my friend at the Times. He's gonna blow this thing wide open.

Hopper chuckles. The head of security tases Hopper again. Hopper groans. The head of security and the lead agent both drag Hopper to his feet and push him into a chair. Hopper grunts. The Head of Security leans in in front of Hopper.

HEAD OF SECURITY: You're just a junkie.

The lead agent picks up a syringe and a small bottle from a small table, using the syringe to draw out the liquid in the bottle.

HEAD OF SECURITY (CONT'D): A small town cop who had a really bad week. Took one too many pills this time.

The head of security stands up straight and walks away. Connie walks in front of Hopper.

CONNIE: You made a mistake coming back here.

HOPPER: No, I didn't. Here's what's gonna happen. You're gonna let me and Joyce Byers go...you're gonna give us anything we need, and we're gonna find her son. And then we're gonna forget that any of this ever happened.

CONNIE: Oh, is that right?

HOPPER: Yeah. That's right.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – NIGHT

Dustin, Lucas, Mike, and Eleven sit on the bleachers. Eleven rests her head on Mike's shoulder, towel draped around her shoulders. Mike bounces his leg, anxiously looking around. He checks his watch. He stands up and walks away.

EXT. HAWKINS MIDDLE GYM – NIGHT

Mike opens the doors and walks out.

MIKE: (shouting) Nancy? Jonathan?

Mike looks around. There's no one outside but him.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – NIGHT

Mike quickly walks back towards the group on the bleachers.

MIKE: They're gone.

LUCAS: What?

MIKE: Nancy and Jonathan. His car's gone.

DUSTIN: They're probably just sucking face somewhere.

LUCAS: Gross.

MIKE: No. No way!

HOPPER: Did they go with the chief?

MIKE: I don't know.

ELEVEN: No.

MIKE: What? Did you see them? Do you know where they went?

ELEVEN: Yes.

MIKE: Where? Where did they go?

ELEVEN: Demogorgon.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy quickly pull up. They open the boot of the car pulling out the hunting weapons and close the boot.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy set the hunting gear down on the ground. They look at each other.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy twist the bulbs back onto the Christmas lights.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan sets up a bear trap, hammering nails through the fastener into the ground. Nancy watches from the doorway of Jonathan's room. Jonathan pulls on the fastener, which is stopped from lifting too far by the nails. He looks back at Nancy, who nods at him.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – JONATHAN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy puts bullets into the chamber of Lonnie's gun.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan hammers nails into a bat.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Nancy pours petrol onto the carpet, making a line from the kitchen towards Will's room.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan hammers nails into a bat.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – WILL'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy walks in, still pouring petrol onto the carpet. She stops, creating a small circle of petrol not far from the doorway.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan grabs a lighter from off the kitchen table, flicking it open to make sure it works before flicking it closed.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – JONATHAN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy puts bullets into the chamber of Lonnie's gun.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy carefully open the jaws of the bear trap, clicking them into place.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan hammers nails into a bat.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan carefully holds the jaws down, and Nancy carefully lifts puts the dog over one of the jaws.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – WILL'S ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan drapes a yo-yo over the back of the chair by the doorway.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – JONATHAN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy puts bullets into the chamber of Lonnie's gun.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – WILL'S ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan flicks the yo-yo string to make sure it's taut.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – JONATHAN'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy flicks the gun chamber back into place.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan hammers nails into a bat. He picks it up, looking at it.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy cautiously lift their feet off the levers of the bear trap. It holds open. They lean against the walls behind them, sighing.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NIGHT

Hopper sits on a chair in the middle of the room. Brenner walks in, closing the door behind him and locking it. He pulls a mostly empty cigarette box out of his jacket pocket and hands it to Hopper as he walks past. Hopper takes the box, finding a lighter and a single cigarette inside. Hopper puts the cigarette in his mouth and lights it.

BRENNER: Where's the girl?

Hopper takes a deep inhale of the cigarette and exhales deeply.

HOPPER: You gotta give me your word. Nobody's ever gonna find out about this. And those other three kids, those boys, you're gonna leave them alone. Then I'll tell you. Tell you where your little science experiment is.

Hopper takes a deep inhale of the cigarette and exhales deeply.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce sits in a chair, hands handcuffed behind her back through the back of the chair. She struggles against them, but stops and looks up when the door opens. Hopper walks into the room, followed by two guards. One of the guards walks over and unlocks the handcuffs.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Joyce and Hopper walk down the hallway. They are flanked by four guards: two in front and two behind.

JOYCE: I don't understand.

HOPPER: We came to an agreement.

JOYCE: What?

HOPPER: Look, everything that's happened here and everything that's gonna happen, we don't talk about. You want Will back? This place had nothing to do with it. That's the deal. You got it?

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NIGHT

The front guards opening the door to a small room. A technician walks in, followed by Hopper and Joyce.

HOPPER: What is this?

One of the guards closes the door. The two back guards stand watch outside.

TECHNICIAN: Protection. The atmosphere is toxic.

JOYCE: But my son's in there. He...

Hopper reaches forward and grabs a yellow hazmat suit.

HOPPER: Put it on.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NIGHT

The elevator slowly opens. The hallway is dark and there are particles floating in the air. Webs and vines cover the walls. Joyce and Hopper slowly start to walk down the hallway, using their torches to guide them.

EXT. HAWKINS LAB – NIGHT

Brenner, Connie, and the lead agent walk out of the building and towards cars, flanked by a large number of guards and a handful of agents.

CONNIE: I'm telling you, this is a mistake.

BRENNER: It's gone. Isn't that what you wanted?

CONNIE: And if they find the boy?

BRENNER: That's not gonna happen.

Guards and agents climb into military trucks. Brenner, Connie, and the lead agent climb into the car at the front of the convoy, driven by another agent. The cars and trucks drive off.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – GATE ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce and Hopper stand in front of the Gate. A low growling can be heard. The pair look at each other before looking back at the Gate. They slowly start to walk towards it, Hopper first. He walks forward and breaks the webs, before pushing through the membrane and disappearing on the other side. Joyce walks through after him, disappearing. The webs join back up behind them.

Cut to black.

MAIN TITLES.

CHAPTER EIGHT: THE UPSIDE DOWN.

EXT. HAWKINS LAB – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper walk away from the Lab, looking around. Joyce breathes heavily, nervous. Hopper puts a hand on her shoulder.

HOPPER: (echoing) Hey, you all right?

JOYCE: (echoing) Yeah.

HOPPER: (echoing) I need you to relax, okay? I want you to slow down your breathing, take deep breaths. In and out. Deep breath in...and out. In and out.

FLASHBACK – EXT. HAWKINS PARK – DAY

HOPPER (O.S.): (echoing) In and out.

Sara runs around, chased by Hopper.

HOPPER (CONT'D): It's troll's favourite food! Princess!

Hopper lifts Sara up and above his head.

SARA: No, Daddy! No, Daddy!

Hopper pulls Sara into him, pretending to eat her. Sara smiles.

HOPPER: Roasted princess with paprika and gravy!

SARA: No! No, Daddy. No, Daddy.

Diane joins them. Sara's smile suddenly fades, and she starts breathing heavily.

HOPPER: Whoa, hey! Hey. You all right?

DIANE: What's going on?

HOPPER: Whoa.

DIANE: *What happened? What happened?*

HOPPER: *I don't know. I don't know.*

Hopper sets Sara down. He and Diane look at her in concern. Sara starts looking around with wide eyes, breathing heavily.

HOPPER (CONT'D): *Hey, you all right? Whoa, whoa, whoa. Relax, relax. Honey, honey. Honey, just breathe. Breathe, breathe, breathe. In and out. Slow, slow, slow.*

Hopper takes a deep breath.

HOPPER (CONT'D): *In and out with me. In...*

EXT. HAWKINS LAB – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper looks at Joyce.

HOPPER: You okay?

JOYCE: Yeah. Yeah.

Hopper holds up a thumbs up. Joyce nods. They keep walking.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan opens a drawer and grabs two sharp knives, closing the drawer.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy stand in the centre of the room, facing each other.

JONATHAN: Remember...

NANCY: Straight into Will's room, and-

JONATHAN: Don't step on the trap.

NANCY: Wait for the yo-yo to move.

JONATHAN: Then...

Jonathan holds up the lighter and flicks it open, lighting it. He flicks it closed.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): All right. You ready?

NANCY: Ready.

Nancy and Jonathan both hold their hands out, each holding a knife. They put the knives against their palms.

JONATHAN: On three. One...two...

Jonathan notices Nancy looking nervous.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): You don't have to do this-

NANCY: Jonathan, stop talking.

JONATHAN: I'm just saying, you don't have to-

NANCY: Three.

The pair slit their palms, blood flowing immediately.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – NIGHT

Eleven sits on the bleachers, holding her knees to her chest. Instead of having the towel around her shoulders, she wears Hopper's flannel shirt. Mike, Dustin, and Lucas stand in a group a short distance away.

MIKE: Guys, guys! This is crazy. We can't just wait around.

LUCAS: Mike, in case you forgot, we're still fugitives. The bad men are still looking for us.

DUSTIN: Yeah, and we don't even know where your sister is.

MIKE: El can find them.

DUSTIN: Mike, look at her.

Mike turns around and looks at Eleven, who turns her head slightly to look at him. Mike turns back to Dustin and Lucas.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): I still think we should stick to the chief's plan.

LUCAS: Exactly. We stay here, keep El out of sight and keep her safe. That's the most important thing, remember? Besides, she's okay. She's with Jonathan.

DUSTIN: Yeah, and she's kind of a badass now, so...

Dustin turns and starts to walk towards the gym's doors.

MIKE: Well, where are you going? You just said stick to the plan!

DUSTIN: I am. I'm just gonna go get some chocolate pudding. I'm telling you, Lunch Lady Phyllis hoards that shit.

MIKE: Are you serious?

Lucas starts to walk after Dustin.

DUSTIN: El needs to be recharged!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy sit on the couch. Nancy wraps a bandage around Jonathan's hand. Faint creaking makes both of them look up.

NANCY: Did you hear that?

JONATHAN: It's just the wind.

Nancy looks nervous.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Don't worry. My mum, she said the lights speak when it comes.

NANCY: Speak?

JONATHAN: Blink. Think of them as alarms.

Nancy looks up at the ceiling before looking back down at her hands, continuing to wrap the bandage around Jonathan's hand.

NANCY: Is that too tight?

JONATHAN: No, it's fine. Thanks.

Nancy puts some tape onto the bandage, fastening it in place. Her hand lingers on Jonathan's hand. He looks up at her, but her focus is on their hands.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Nancy?

Nancy looks at Jonathan.

NANCY: Yeah?

There's banging on the door, making them both jump.

STEVE (O.S.): Jonathan? Are you there, man? It's...it's Steve!

Nancy and Jonathan look at each other in confusion.

STEVE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Listen, I just want to talk!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy runs over to the front door and opens it enough to stick her head out, finding Steve on the other side. He looks confused to see her.

NANCY: Steve, listen to me.

STEVE: Hey. Nancy, what-

NANCY: You need to leave.

STEVE: I'm not trying to start anything, okay?

NANCY: I don't care about that. You need to leave.

STEVE: No, no, no. Listen, I messed up, okay? I messed...I messed up. Okay? Really. Please. I just want to make things right. Okay? Please. Please...

Steve notices the bandage around Nancy's hand.

STEVE (CONT'D): Hey, what happened to your hand?

Steve grabs Nancy's wrist and turns it to see blood on the palm of the bandage.

STEVE (CONT'D): Is that blood?

Nancy pulls her hand away.

NANCY: Nothing. It was an accident.

STEVE: Yeah, what's going on?

NANCY: Nothing.

STEVE: Wait a sec. Did he do this to you?

Steve starts to try and push past Nancy. Nancy pushes against him.

NANCY: No.

STEVE: Nancy, let me in!

NANCY: No. No! No, Steve!

Steve pushes his way into the house and stops short, looking around. He sees the Christmas lights. He sees the nail bat on the coffee table. He sees the bandage on Jonathan's hand.

STEVE: What is...what the...

Jonathan starts to push Steve towards the door. Steve resists.

JONATHAN: You need to get out of here.

STEVE: Whoa. What is all-

JONATHAN: Listen to me. I'm not asking you, I'm telling you, get out of here!

STEVE: What is that smell? Is that...is that gasoline?

NANCY: Steve, get out!

Nancy points Lonnie's gun at Steve. Jonathan jumps away.

STEVE: Wait. What? What is going on?

NANCY: You have five seconds to get out of here.

STEVE: Okay, is this a joke? Stop. Put the gun down.

NANCY: I'm doing this for you.

The Christmas lights start to blink. Jonathan notices.

STEVE: Hold on. Hold on.

JONATHAN: Nancy.

STEVE: Wait. Is this a...what is this?

JONATHAN: Nancy.

NANCY: Three.

STEVE: No, no, no!

NANCY: Two.

STEVE: No, no!

JONATHAN: Nancy! The lights!

Nancy looks up to see the lights blinking. Steve looks confused. Jonathan reaches forward and grabs the bat off the coffee table.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): It's here.

STEVE: Wait, what's here?

NANCY: Where is it?

Jonathan and Nancy stand with their backs together, looking around.

STEVE: Where is what? Whoa! Easy with that!

NANCY: Where is it?

JONATHAN: I don't know. I don't see it.

STEVE: Where is what? Hello? Will someone please explain to me what the hell is going-

The ceiling in the far corner of the room starts to fall apart, a fleshy membrane appearing. The Demogorgon's head pokes through before it starts to break through. Nancy aims the gun at it and starts firing. The Demogorgon growls.

JONATHAN: No!

Jonathan grabs Nancy and pulls her away.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Go! Go! Run! Go!

The Demogorgon falls through the membrane and lands on the ground. Steve stares at it in shock. Jonathan grabs his hand and pulls him towards the hallway.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Get out of here!

The Demogorgon roars.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Nancy, Jonathan, and Steve run down the hallway towards Wil's room.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Jump!

Jonathan jumps over the bear trap. Steve does the same, freaking out.

STEVE: Oh, my God! Oh, my God!

They run into Will's room, slamming the door behind them. The 'NO TRESPASSING' sign falls off.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – WILL'S ROOM – NIGHT

Steve moves to the back of the room, furthest from the door, still freaking out.

STEVE (CONT'D): Jesus! Jesus! What the hell was that?

JONATHAN and NANCY: (in unison) Shut up!

The Demogorgon can be heard on the other side of the door. The trio face it. Nancy points the gun at the door. Jonathan holds the nail bat in one hand and the lit lighter in the other. Steve stands behind them, scared. The lights flicker. They wait for the Demogorgon to do something, anything.

NANCY: What's it doing?

JONATHAN: I don't know.

There's a small jolt of electricity and the lights stay on, no longer flickering. Nancy and Jonathan look at each other before looking back at the door. There's silence.

NANCY: Do you hear anything?

Jonathan flicks the lighter closed.

JONATHAN: No.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan cautiously opens the door and pokes his head out, holding up the bat. He walks out in the hallway. Nancy pokes her head out before moving into the hallway herself. Steve pokes his head out before slowly moving into the hallway, staying close to the doorway of Will's room. The bear trap is still set, the yo-yo string still running into Will's room. It's as if the Demogorgon was never there.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper slowly make their way through, looking around as they do so. Hopper comes across what appears to be a hatched egg, dripping with goo. He reaches down and touches it. Joyce keeps walking, looking around. She comes across Castle Byers. It's completely destroyed.

JOYCE: (echoing) Will! Will!

Hopper looks up when he hears Joyce's yell. He walks in the direction of the yelling and finds Joyce frantically looking for any signs of Will in the destroyed Castle Byers.

JOYCE (CONT'D): (echoing) Will! Will!

Hopper notices a dishevelled stuffed tiger sitting in the rubble. He bends down and runs his hand over it.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Sara sits in the hospital bed. She looks sick, and her hair is gone. Hopper lays in the bed next to her, reading Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery. Diane sits in a chair by the bed. A stuffed tiger sits on the bed next to Sara.

HOPPER: "I asked Mrs. Spencer what made them red and she said she didn't know and for pity's sake not to ask her any more questions. She said I must have asked her a thousand already. I suppose I had, too, but how are you gonna find things out if you don't ask questions? And what does make roads red? 'Well, I don't know,' said Matthew. It just makes me feel glad to be alive...it's such an interesting world."

Hopper kisses Sara's head.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – STAIRWELL – DAY

Hopper sits on the ground on one of the landings, leaning against the wall. He starts to sob.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – UPSIDE DOWN

JOYCE: (echoing) Will!

Hopper stands up. The pair continue to look for Will.

HOPPER: Will!

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy slowly creep out of the hallway, looking around for signs of the Demogorgon. It's gone. Steve creeps out of the hallway after them, looking scared and confused. Jonathan makes his way into the centre of the lounge room, looking around. Nancy looks around. Steve stands in the little intersection between the kitchen, the hallway, and the lounge room, freaking out.

STEVE: This is crazy. This is crazy. This is crazy. This is crazy! This is crazy! This is crazy!

Steve quickly moves towards the phone and grabs it off the wall, dialling 911. He puts the phone to his ear, listening to it ring. Nancy marches over and grabs the phone out of his hands, throwing it to the ground.

STEVE (CONT'D): What are you do...what are you doing? Are you insane?

NANCY: It's going to come back! So you need to leave. Right now.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

Steve runs out the front door and rushes to his car, fumbling for his keys as he reaches it. He quickly unlocks his car, looking around. He opens the car door and is about to get in when he pauses, looking at the Byers house. The lights inside flicker on and off. The Demogorgon is back.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

The Christmas lights blink. Nancy and Jonathan look around, holding their weapons.

NANCY: Where is it?

JONATHAN: Come on. Come on, you son of a bitch. You see it?

NANCY: No. Where-

JONATHAN: Come on. Where are you? Come on!

The lights flicker off. The Demogorgon rises behind them, growling, only lit up by the moonlight streaming through the window. Nancy turns and sees it.

NANCY: Jonathan!

The Demogorgon growls, knocking Jonathan to the floor. The nail bat rolls away. It holds him down, its face hovering above his.

NANCY (CONT'D): Jonathan!

The Demogorgon drools onto Jonathan's face, some of it getting in his mouth.

NANCY (CONT'D): Jonathan!

Jonathan's eyes go wide as the Demogorgon opens its mouth. Nancy starts shooting at it, causing it to roar and turn its head to look at her.

NANCY (CONT'D): Go to hell, you son of a bitch!

The Demogorgon rises, unaffected by the hail of bullets. Nancy's eyes go wide. Jonathan sputters. The Demogorgon opens its mouth. Nancy shoots it again, but it is unaffected. It roars at her. The gun clicks, empty. Nancy tries but fails to keep it going. The Demogorgon starts towards her. Out of

nowhere, Steve leaps into the room and swings the nail bat into the Demogorgon's side, the nails puncturing the skin.

NANCY (CONT'D): Steve!

The Demogorgon swings for Steve, who dodges its arm. He starts to back away from the Demogorgon, which follows him towards the kitchen. Steve swings the nail bat again, this time into the Demogorgon's chest. It roars, swinging another arm that Steve dodges. Steve swings the nail bat into its chest again. Steve swings the nail bat into the Demogorgon's stomach, pushing it down the hallway and towards the bear trap. Its foot lands in the bear trap, making it roar.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – WILL'S ROOM – NIGHT

The yo-yo gets pulled towards the door.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

STEVE: He's in the trap!

The Demogorgon flails, shaking its leg and trying to get the trap off its foot.

STEVE (CONT'D): He's stuck!

NANCY: Jonathan, now!

Jonathan rounds the corner from the lounge room and stands in the hallway, lighter in hand. He flicks it open and lights it, throwing the lit lighter onto the carpet in front of them. The lighter lands, setting the carpet ablaze. The fire spreads, engulfing the Demogorgon. It shrieks in pain. Jonathan, Nancy, and Steve try to shield their eyes from the light.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper walk through. A very faint screeching can be heard.

JOYCE: Did you hear that?

The screeching sounds again. Joyce and Hopper rush off towards it.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan, Nancy, and Steve watch the Demogorgon as it's ablaze. Jonathan runs into the lounge room, coming back moments later with a fire extinguisher.

JONATHAN: Get back!

Jonathan aims the fire extinguisher at the Demogorgon, filling the area with smoke. The fire slowly goes out. The trio all cough. After a few moments, they all slowly approach the spot the Demogorgon had just been.

NANCY: Where did it go?

JONATHAN: No. It has to be dead. It has to be.

The camera slowly pans from the trio down to the bear trap. The carpet around it is charred black. The only sign of the Demogorgon having been there is a small pile of sizzling flesh.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – BACK YARD – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper approach the house.

HOPPER: Come on.

JOYCE: Is that my house?

They walk up to the back porch door and open it.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper opens the back door and walks inside, followed closely by Joyce. They look around the house, slowly moving through. Hopper turns the corner into the hallway.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

A line of Christmas lights slowly lights up, travelling from the kitchen down the hallway. The trio start to back down the hallway towards Will's room, unsure of what the lights mean.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper walks down it towards Will's room. He stops about halfway down the hallway. There's a big puddle of black something on the ground, with a trail leading down the hallway and towards the lounge room. The puddle is in the same spot the Demogorgon was burned in in the real world mere moments before.

HOPPER: It was hurt.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

No more Christmas lights light up. The trio waits in anticipation, unsure of what to expect.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper turns around and see the trail of goo leading away from the big puddle. He follows it, turning the corner into the lounge room.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

The Christmas lights light up, this time heading away from Will's room and towards the lounge room. The trio look at each other before cautiously following the lights.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper and Joyce follow the trail towards the front door.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

The Christmas lights light up, headed towards the front door. Jonathan steps forward, seeming to realise that it's not because of the Demogorgon.

JONATHAN: Mum.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

JONATHAN (CONT'D)(O.S.): (echoing) Is that you?

Joyce turns around, hearing Jonathan's voice. She stares at the space in which Jonathan is standing in the real world, unseen. Behind her, Hopper opens the front door.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)(O.S.): Mum.

JOYCE: Jonathan?

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Jonathan breathes heavily.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper turns around and sees Joyce just standing there.

HOPPER: Joyce, come on.

Joyce starts to turn and follow Hopper.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

Jonathan opens the front door and walks outside, followed by Steve and Nancy. They stand on the edge of the porch, looking at a street light a few metres away. It flickers briefly before staying on.

NANCY: Where's it going?

JONATHAN: I don't think that's the monster.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CAFETERIA KITCHEN – NIGHT

Dustin opens a fridge door, finding tins of chocolate pudding piles on one tray.

DUSTIN: Found it! I knew she was hoarding it.

Dustin and Lucas start to grab the tins and pile them up in their arms.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): I knew it.

LUCAS: Yeah.

DUSTIN: Always lying, saying she's out. Bald-faced liar. Mike! I found the chocolate pudding!

MIKE (O.S.): Okay!

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CAFETERIA – NIGHT

Mike and Eleven sit at a table.

MIKE (CONT'D): Are you feeling any better?

Eleven shrugs. Mike sighs.

ELEVEN: What's "putting"?

MIKE: Pudding, it's...it's this chocolate goo you eat with a spoon.

Eleven looks slightly disgusted.

MIKE (CONT'D): Don't worry, when all this is over, you won't have to keep eating junk food and leftovers like a dog anymore. My mum, she's a pretty awesome cook. She can make you whatever you like.

ELEVEN: Eggos?

MIKE: Well, yeah, Eggos, but real food, too.

Mike sighs.

MIKE (CONT'D): See, I was thinking, once all this is over and Will's back and you're not a secret anymore, my parents can get you an actual bed for the basement. Or you can take my room if you want, since I'm down there all the time anyways. My point is, they'll take care of you. They'll be like your new parents, and Nancy, she'll be like your new sister.

ELEVEN: Will you be like my brother?

Mike looks slightly disgusted.

MIKE: What? No, no.

ELEVEN: Why "no"?

MIKE: Because...

Mike sighs.

MIKE (CONT'D): Cause it's different.

ELEVEN: Why?

Mike sighs.

MIKE: I mean, I don't know, I guess it's not. It's stupid.

ELEVEN: Mike?

MIKE: Yeah?

ELEVEN: Friends don't lie.

Mike sighs.

MIKE: Well...I was thinking...I don't know...maybe we can go to the Snow Ball together.

ELEVEN: "Snow Ball"?

MIKE: It's this cheesy school dance, where you go to the gym and dance to music and stuff. I've never been, but I know you're not supposed to go with your sister.

ELEVEN: No?

MIKE: I mean...you can, but it'd be really weird. You go to school dances with someone that, you know...someone that you like.

ELEVEN: A friend?

MIKE: Not a friend. Uh...uh...uh, someone like a...

Unable to put his thoughts into words, Mike leans forward and kisses Eleven. She looks surprised, taking a deep breath, but she smiles. Mike smiles as well. The sound of a car approaching is heard, and Mike and Eleven turn to see headlights passing by the windows. Mike looks at Eleven.

MIKE (CONT'D): Nancy. Hold on, I'll be right back. Stay here.

Mike stands up and leaves the cafeteria.

EXT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CAFETERIA – NIGHT

Mike opens the door and walks out, seeing a number of cars and military trucks pull up to the Hawkins Middle gym building. Agents get out of the cars. Guards get out of the trucks and start running around the back. Every one of them is holding a gun. Mike turns around and quickly runs back into the building.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CAFETERIA – NIGHT

Dustin and Lucas drop the tins of chocolate pudding down on the table Eleven is sitting at.

DUSTIN: This will charge your battery right up, I'm telling you.

Mike runs into the cafeteria and runs towards them.

MIKE: Guys! Guys!

LUCAS: What is it?

MIKE: They found us.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – NIGHT

A group of agents walk down the hallway, holding up their torches.

AGENT: We know they're here.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – GYM – NIGHT

A group of guards walk into the gym, holding up their torches and guns. They head to the centre of the gym, looking around.

GUARD (ON WALKIE TALKIE): Be advised, west side of the building is clear.

The group meets up with another group, the guards all surrounding the kiddie pool in the middle of the room. It's still full of water. Brenner, Connie, and the lead agent join the group of guards, staring at the pool.

AGENT: Sir, we searched everywhere. There's no sign of them.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – AV ROOM – NIGHT

A guard kicks in the door and searches the room with two others.

AGENT 2: Nothing.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CLASSROOM – NIGHT

A guard kicks in the door and searches the room with a few others.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CAFETERIA – NIGHT

A group of guards and agents search the room. The lead agent walks in, headed straight for the table with the tins of chocolate pudding.

AGENT: Keep it locked down.

AGENT 2: All right.

AGENT 3: Kitchen.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Eleven and the boys run into it, looking around before heading to the right. They move as fast as they can.

LUCAS: How did they find us?

MIKE: I don't know, but they knew we were in the gym.

DUSTIN: Lando.

The group stops short when a set of agents open the school doors in front of them.

AGENT: Got 'em!

The group turns and runs in the other direction.

MIKE: Go, go, go, go, go!

LUCAS: Come on!

The group rounds a corner and runs into another set of agents.

AGENT 2: There they are! Freeze!

MIKE: Back! Go back!

The group runs back into the hallway, running to the left.

MIKE (CONT'D): Go, go! Go left!

The group stops when Connie and a set of agents rounds the corner, holding up their guns. The group is surrounded. Eleven stares at Connie. Blood starts to trickle out of Connie's eyes and nose, her head shaking ever so slightly. The same happens to the guards and agents surrounding the group. They all choke, their hands shaking. The torches flicker. Connie, the agents, and the guards all drop to the ground, dead. Eleven falls to the ground, weak. The boys all kneel down to check on her. Blood trickles out of her nose and ears, and her skin is grey. Mike shakes her.

MIKE: El, are you okay?

Eleven doesn't respond.

MIKE (CONT'D): El!

Mike looks at Lucas and Dustin.

MIKE (CONT'D): Something's wrong.

DUSTIN: She's just drained.

MIKE: No, no, no, she won't wake up. El! El! El!

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper follow the Demogorgon's trail.

HOPPER: There's more blood.

The pair keep walking, looking around.

JOYCE: This way.

The pair turn down another road, looking around. Joyce focuses on following the trail, while Hopper focuses on keeping an eye out. The trail makes a sharp turn. The pair stop and look to see where it leads to. They see that the trail leads into the Hawkins Library. Joyce and Hopper share a look before walking towards the library.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – NIGHT

MIKE: She's barely breathing.

LUCAS: We gotta go.

BRENNER: Leave her.

The boys jump back, seeing Brenner and a set of guards turning the corner into the hallway. The boys crowd Eleven, defending her.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Step away from the child.

MIKE: No! You want her, you'll have to kill us first.

DUSTIN: That's right!

LUCAS: Eat shit!

A set of guards comes up behind the boys, grabbing them and pulling them away from Eleven. The boys struggle against the guards.

MIKE: Oh, no! No, no!

DUSTIN: No! No! Get off me!

LUCAS: You idiot!

DUSTIN: No!

LUCAS: Get off me!

DUSTIN: Get off me!

MIKE: Ow! Let go!

As the boys continue to struggle and protest, Brenner kneels down on the floor beside Eleven. He picks her up into a sitting position, cradling her head.

BRENNER: Eleven? Eleven, can you hear me? Eleven?

Eleven opens her eyes. She looks weak.

ELEVEN: Papa?

BRENNER: Yes, yes, it's your papa.

MIKE: Get off of me.

Eleven looks at the boys, who are still struggling against the guards.

BRENNER: I'm here now.

MIKE: Let her go! Let her go, you bastard!

Eleven looks around, whimpering.

BRENNER: Shh, shh, you're sick. You're sick, but I'm going to make you better. I'm going to take you back home, where I can make you well again. Where we can make all of this better, so no one else gets hurt.

Eleven looks at Brenner.

ELEVEN: Bad. Bad.

Eleven reaches a hand out towards Mike.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): Mike. Mike.

Eleven pushes Brenner's hand away.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): Mike.

The lights start to flicker. Everyone stares at the wall at the end of the hallway.

MIKE: Blood.

LUCAS: What?

MIKE: Blood.

The camera pans over the dead bodies in front of the group, all with puddles of blood near their heads, and up to the wall at the end of the hallway. The wall starts to crack, pieces of it falling to the ground. A claw breaks through, swiping to create a hole. The Demogorgon's head breaks through, growling. The boys look on in fear.

DUSTIN: Demogorgon.

The Demogorgon breaks free. It growls. The guards holding the boys let them go, grabbing their guns. The guards and agents start firing at the Demogorgon.

MIKE: Go, go, go, go, go!

The boys quickly kneel down and grab Eleven, keeping an eye on the Demogorgon. Dustin picks Eleven up and they head down the hallway away from the Demogorgon.

MIKE (CONT'D): Come on, come on.

LUCAS: Go, go!

The Demogorgon screeches as it's hit with bullets, but it remains mostly unaffected. As Brenner steps closer, it leaps onto him.

INT. HAWKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce and Hopper walk through the building, looking around. Everything is covered in webs and vines. They spot the trail of blood and follow it into the back part of the library. As they walk through, Joyce spots a skeleton trapped in the webs.

JOYCE: (under breath) Oh, my God.

Hopper's torch moves over the walls and floors as he walks through the hallway, looking around for any signs of Will or the Demogorgon. He looks down and spots Barb trapped in the webs, dead. Hopper's breath catches. Joyce moves her torch over the walls, looking nervous. Her torch lands on Will, trapped in the webs with a vine suctioned onto his mouth. She gasps and runs over to him.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will! Will!

Hopper looks up from Barb to see Will. Joyce stands in front of him, looking horrified.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will! Oh, my God!

Joyce starts to try and pull on Will.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Will! Hopper!

Hopper walks over to Will.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Oh, my God! You need to help get him out!

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

We're in Hawkins Memorial. Sara lays in her bed, eyes closed. A breathing tube is in her mouth, taped into place.

INT. HAWKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce has started crying.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Get him out!

Hopper grabs the vine suctioned onto Will's mouth, holding Will's chin in the other hand. He starts to pull at the vine. Joyce whimpers. Hopper grabs the vine with his other hand, pulling. He pulls it out, throwing it to the side. The vine hisses and slithers.

HOPPER: Oh, Jesus!

Hopper fires at the vine, hitting it and the ground.

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – HALLWAY – NIGHT

The boys run down the hallway and away from the Demogorgon, with Dustin still carrying the weak Eleven. The lights flicker.

MIKE: Come on, come on, come on!

DUSTIN: Oh, my God!

INT. HAWKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL – CLASSROOM – NIGHT

Mike opens the door and runs inside. Dustin walks in sideways, careful not to hit Eleven on the door.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Sorry. Hold on, we're almost there. We're almost there.

Lucas walks in last, closing the door behind him and locking it. The boys make their way to the back of the classroom, with Dustin carefully navigating the desks while holding Eleven.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Come on. Come on.

Dustin reaches a table at the end of the room, trying to lift Eleven onto it.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Help, help.

Lucas helps Dustin lift Eleven up.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Come on, get her on the table.

Mike rounds the table and stands next to Eleven, holding her hand. She looks weak.

MIKE: Just hold on a little longer, okay? He's gone. The bad man's gone. We'll be home soon, and my mum...she'll get you your own bed. You can eat as many Eggos as you want.

Eleven gives a small smile. Mike snuffles.

MIKE (CONT'D): And we can go to the Snow Ball.

ELEVEN: (softly) Promise?

Mike snuffles.

MIKE: Promise.

Eleven smiles. The sound of the Demogorgon roaring close by startles the group, making them jump back and look at the door. There's lots of gunfire and growling. The gunfire suddenly stops.

DUSTIN: Is...is it dead?

The door suddenly flies forward and lands on the ground, the Demogorgon standing on it on all fours. The boys look at it in horror. Mike turns around to Lucas.

MIKE: Go, go, go, go!

Lucas rushes to get his bag off.

DUSTIN: Get the wrist rocket! Get the wrist rocket now!

Lucas throws his bag onto the table.

MIKE: Go, go, go, go, go!

The Demogorgon growls. Lucas grabs the wrist rocket out of his bag and fumbles to set it up.

MIKE (CONT'D): Go, go, go!

DUSTIN: Take it out now!

Dustin starts rifling through Lucas' bag.

MIKE: Get the rocks, get the rocks, get the rocks!

DUSTIN: Getting the rocks!

LUCAS: Give me one.

Mike hands Lucas a rock. He loads it into the wrist rocket and aims it at the Demogorgon.

DUSTIN: Come on! Fire! Fire!

MIKE: Go! Go! Kill it! Kill it!

Lucas lets the rock fly. It hits the Demogorgon and has even less of an effect on it than the bullets did. It roars at them and starts to slowly advance towards them.

LUCAS: Give me another one.

Dustin gives Lucas another rock.

DUSTIN: Kill it! Bastard!

Lucas loads the rock into the wrist rocket and aims.

MIKE: Kill it! Go, go, go, go!

DUSTIN: Kill it now!

Lucas lets the rock fly. It hits the Demogorgon and barely affects it. Dustin hands Lucas another rock, which he loads into the wrist rocket and aims.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Get, get, get...come on, kill the bastard!

LUCAS: It's not working!

MIKE: Hit him again!

DUSTIN: Kill him!

Lucas lets the rock fly. It hits the Demogorgon and barely affects it.

MIKE: Keep going! Come on!

DUSTIN: Get, get, get...

Dustin hands Lucas another rock, which he loads into the wrist rocket and aims.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Come on, kill it!

MIKE: Come on! Go, go, go!

Lucas pulls the wrist rocket back. The Demogorgon growls. Lucas lets the rock fly. It hits the Demogorgon and sends it flying backwards into the blackboard, pushing all the desks aside and cracking the wall. The boys all gasp, taken aback. They turn to see Eleven walk towards them before passing them. She's looking at the Demogorgon as she walks towards it. Mike runs forward to grab Eleven.

MIKE (CONT'D): Eleven, stop!

Eleven holds a hand behind her, sending Mike flying backwards. He lands on the floor and slides into the cabinets, hitting his head slightly. Dustin and Lucas look at him before looking at Eleven. Eleven continues to walk towards the Demogorgon, her powers holding it in place. It struggles. The lights flicker rapidly. Eleven turns to look back at the boys. They're all watching, unsure of what's going to happen. A tear rolls down Mike's cheek.

ELEVEN: Goodbye, Mike.

More tears roll down Mike's cheek. Eleven turns to face the Demogorgon. It struggles, growling.

ELEVEN (CONT'D): No more.

Eleven holds up her hand. The Demogorgon starts to screech in pain, making the boys groan and cover their ears. The Demogorgon tries to reach for Eleven but is unable to touch her. She screams. The Demogorgon's chest glows white and starts to disperse into particles. It screeches in pain. The boys hold their hands over their ears. Eleven screams. The Demogorgon turns into particles, screeching in pain. The particles envelope Eleven. The boys look up when there's no more screeching, taking their hands off their ears. They watch as the Demogorgon particles fall to the ground and disappear. Mike stands up, running forward. Dustin and Lucas follow him. Eleven is gone.

MIKE: El? El?

The boys start to look for Eleven.

MIKE (CONT'D): El!

LUCAS: Eleven!

DUSTIN: Eleven!

MIKE: El!

Mike starts to bounce slightly, tears forming in his eyes.

MIKE (CONT'D): El, where are you? Eleven! El?

INT. HAWKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper lays Will down on the ground. Joyce kneels next to him. She takes her hazmat suit's headpiece off.

JOYCE: Oh, God.

Joyce checks for Will's breathing. Hopper takes his hazmat suit's headpiece off.

JOYCE (CONT'D): He's not breathing, he's not breathing.

Hopper pulls his gloves off with his teeth.

HOPPER: All right, Joyce, Joyce, listen to me, listen to me, listen to me. I need you to tilt his head back...

JOYCE: Okay.

HOPPER: And lift his chin.

JOYCE: Okay.

Hopper puts his hands on Will's chest, one over the other, and starts CPR. Joyce tilts Will's head back and lifts his chin.

HOPPER: One, two, three, four. Now when I tell you, you're gonna pinch his nostrils and breathe into his mouth...twice.

JOYCE: Okay.

HOPPER: One second...then pause. 22, 23. Then one second.

JOYCE: Okay.

HOPPER: 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. Now! Go!

Joyce pinches Will's nose and breathes into his mouth, pausing before doing it again. He doesn't move. Joyce whimpers.

JOYCE: Oh, come on, come on.

HOPPER: Come on...

Hopper starts compressions again.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Come on, kid. Come on, kid!

JOYCE: Will! Will, listen to me. It's me, it's your mum and I love you so much. I love you so much. I love you more than anything in the world. Please...

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Sara lays on the bed, eyes closed. A doctor administers CPR while a nurse bags her.

NURSE: Blood pressure keeps dropping. Her pulse ox is falling.

Hopper and Diane watch on.

INT. HAWKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Joyce sobs.

JOYCE: I love you so much. I love you more than anything in the world. Please, please come back to me. Just...

HOPPER: Come on, kid!

JOYCE: Please, please wake up. Please, please.

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Hopper and Diane watch as the doctors and nurses try to keep Sara alive. Diane is crying. Hopper looks in shock.

JOYCE (CONT'D)(O.S.): (echoing) Breathe, Will, come on!

The EKG monitor flatlines.

NURSE: Flatlining!

Diane bursts into tears, crying into Hopper's shoulder. Hopper holds her, tears in his eyes.

JOYCE (O.S.): (echoing) Come back to me, breathe.

INT. HAWKINS PUBLIC LIBRARY – HALLWAY – UPSIDE DOWN

Hopper pounds Will's chest.

JOYCE (CONT'D): I need you to wake up now. I need you to breathe. Please breathe! Please!

Will suddenly gasps and coughs, sitting up. Joyce and Hopper look relieved.

JOYCE (CONT'D): That's it! Oh, my God, that's it, that's it!

Will coughs. Joyce rubs his back.

JOYCE (CONT'D): That's it, baby. Breathe.

Hopper moves behind Joyce to grab the oxygen mask for Will.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Breathe. All right. Come on. Come on. Breathe, breathe, come on, come on.

Hopper puts the oxygen mask on Will.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Good, good, good, good. Just breathe, Will, breathe.

Joyce sobs with relief.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Oh, my God.

Hopper looks relieved. Joyce holds the oxygen mask on Will's face. They sit there for a few moments, catching their breaths.

EXT. HAWKINS SCHOOL – CAR PARK – NIGHT

Police cars, fire trucks, and ambulances are already on scene. Karen and Ted pull up to Hawkins Middle. Karen immediately gets out, looking around.

KAREN: Michael?

Karen starts to walk around, looking around.

KAREN (CONT'D): Michael!

Karen walks past police officers, looking around. Ted has caught up to her.

KAREN (CONT'D): Michael?

Karen spots Mike sitting in the back of an ambulance, being checked over by paramedics.

KAREN (CONT'D): (softly) Michael.

Karen rushes over to Mike.

KAREN (CONT'D): Oh, my God. Oh, my God.

Karen pulls Mike in for a hug, holding him tightly.

KAREN (CONT'D): You're okay. You're okay.

Mike starts to cry.

The camera lifts up. Karen holds on tightly to Mike, who is crying. Ted talks to a paramedic nearby. The Sinclairs talk to a paramedic in the background. Paramedics, firefighters, and police officers go about their duties in the background.

Fade to black.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Will lays in a bed, eyes closed, a nasal cannula sitting on his face. He slowly wakes up, looking around. His eyes focus on Joyce and Jonathan, who are sitting beside the bed. They notice he's awake and instantly look relieved. Joyce starts to stroke his head. Jonathan takes his hand.

JOYCE: Hey. Hi, sweetheart.

JONATHAN: Hey.

WILL: Where...where am I?

Joyce and Jonathan share a look before looking at Will.

JONATHAN: You're home. You're home now. You're safe.

WILL: Jonathan.

Jonathan smiles and laughs softly. A tear runs down his cheek.

JONATHAN: Yeah, it's me, buddy. We missed you. We really missed you.

Will notices Jonathan's bandaged hand.

WILL: Are you okay?

JONATHAN: What, this? It's just a cut. It's nothing. You're worried about my hand.

Joyce and Jonathan share a chuckle. Will looks up at Joyce.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Oh, hey, uh...

Jonathan lifts a box up from the floor and places it on the bed beside Will.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): We, uh...we brought you some stuff...so you don't get bored in here. So...

Jonathan snuffles, looking into the box. He pulls out a cassette and shows it to Will. Will takes it.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Uh, I made you a new mix tape. There's some stuff on there I think you really might like.

Will smiles.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – WAITING ROOM – NIGHT

The camera pans across the room's inhabitants. Hopper, his face stony. Ted, asleep. Steve, looking as if he's trying to wrap his head around that night's events. Karen, looking concerned. Nancy, looking worried. Dustin, asleep on Lucas' shoulder, who is also sleeping. Mike, who looks both worried and slightly heartbroken. Jonathan opens the door. Everyone turns to look at him. He makes eye contact with Mike and nods. Mike gets up, jostling Dustin and Lucas awake.

MIKE: Guys. Guys, he's up. Will is up. Guys, Will's up.

Mike rushes towards the door. Dustin and Lucas wake up, with Lucas giving Dustin a 'what the heck' look. They start to follow Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D): Guys, come on.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – PATIENT ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce sits on the bed beside Will, smiling. Mike opens the door and runs in, followed by Dustin and Lucas. Will smiles when he sees them. Joyce stands up.

MIKE (CONT'D): Byers!

The boys rush over to wrap Will in a hug, Mike and Lucas reaching him first.

JOYCE: Be careful. Be careful with him.

Dustin pulls Mike and Lucas back so he can hug Will.

DUSTIN: Move.

Jonathan walks in the door.

JONATHAN: Guys, guys. Go easy on him.

Dustin stands up. The boys all smile at him. He smiles back.

LUCAS: You won't believe what happened when you were gone, man.

DUSTIN: It was mental.

LUCAS: You had a funeral.

DUSTIN: Jennifer Hayes was crying.

LUCAS: And Troy peed himself.

WILL: What?

DUSTIN: In front of the whole school!

LUCAS: Yes!

Will starts coughing, covering his mouth. The boys' smiles fade, all of them looking concerned. Will stops coughing. Mike gives Will's shoulder a little poke.

MIKE: You okay?

WILL: It got me. The Demogorgon.

MIKE: We know. It's okay. It's dead. We made a new friend. She stopped it. She saved us. But she's gone now.

DUSTIN: Her name's Eleven.

WILL: Like the number?

LUCAS: Well, we call her "El" for short.

DUSTIN: She's basically a wizard.

LUCAS: (whispers) She has superpowers.

MIKE: More like a Yoda.

DUSTIN: She flipped a van with her mind, and these agents were trying to shoot us-

MIKE: Yeah, it flipped over us-

LUCAS: Then she squeezed the brains out...

Nancy stands in the doorway. A small smile sits on her face as she listens to the boys, but it slowly fades.

DUSTIN (O.S.): And blood was pouring out of their faces.

MIKE (O.S.): It was pouring out of their eyes.

LUCAS (O.S.): Agents just started grabbing us and stuff...

DUSTIN (O.S.): ...shot out of the wall...

The boys' voices continue indistinctly as the camera zooms in slightly on Nancy. She looks at the floor, before she sighs and leaves the room. Jonathan notices her go, turning to watch, before he lets out a small sigh and looks back at the boys.

EXT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – NIGHT

Hopper opens a door, putting his hat on as he walks out. He puts a cigarette in his mouth and lights it, walking down the steps and turning to the right. As he walks down the driveway, a car slowly pulls up beside him. He stops and turns to look at it, with a man getting out of the passenger seat. The man gives Hopper a look before moving to open the back door for him. Hopper takes one last drag of his cigarette before throwing it on the ground, turning to the car and getting in the backseat. The man shuts the door after him and hops into passenger seat. The car drives off. The camera pans up to the sky.

ONE MONTH LATER

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

A thin layer of snow covers the ground, and snow is slowly falling.

MIKE (O.S.): Something is coming. Something angry.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – BASEMENT – NIGHT

Mike, Will, Dustin, and Lucas sit around a table playing D&D.

MIKE (CONT'D): Hungry for your blood. It is almost here.

WILL: What is it?

DUSTIN: It's the thessalhydra, I'm, telling you.

LUCAS: It's not the thessalhydra.

DUSTIN: I'm telling you, it's the thessalhydra.

Mike slams a thessalhydra figure down on the table.

MIKE: The thessalhydra!

The boys groan.

DUSTIN: Damn it.

MIKE: It roars in anger! Will, your action!

WILL: What should I do? I-

LUCAS: Fireball him!

Will looks from Lucas to Dustin. Dustin puts his elbow on the table and puts his hand on his chin, thinking. He looks at Will.

DUSTIN: Fireball the son of a bitch.

They all smile. Will grabs the dice and rolls it. Cheers go up from the boys.

DUSTIN: Fourteen!

MIKE: Direct hit! Will the Wise's Fireball hits the thessalhydra. It makes a painful...

Mike stands up, imitating a pained screech.

MIKE (CONT'D): And then...

Mike drops to his knees.

MIKE (CONT'D): It crumbles to the ground.

Mike reaches out a hand.

MIKE (CONT'D): Its clawed hand reaches for you one last time and, and, and...and...

Mike pretends to die. The others cheer, hugging each other and dancing. Mike sits down.

MIKE (CONT'D): Lucas cuts off its seven heads, and Dustin places them into his bag of holding.

Will and Lucas sit down. Dustin holds up his bag, pretending it's his bag of holding. He sits down.

MIKE (CONT'D): You carry the heads out of the dungeon, victorious, and you present them to King Tristan. He thanks you for your bravery and service.

DUSTIN: Whoa. Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, that's not it, is it?

MIKE: No, there's a medal ceremony-

DUSTIN: Oh, a medal ceremony? What are you talking about?

MIKE: And-

LUCAS: The campaign was way too short.

WILL: Yeah!

MIKE: It was ten hours!

DUSTIN: But it doesn't make any sense.

MIKE: It makes sense.

DUSTIN: Uh, no. What about the lost knight?

LUCAS: And the proud princess?

WILL: And those weird flowers in the cave?

MIKE: I don't know, it's-

The basement door opens. The boys look up to see Jonathan walking down the stairs.

JONATHAN: Geez, what's that smell? Have you guys been playing games all day, or just farting?

The boys chuckle.

LUCAS: Oh, that's just Dustin. He farted.

Dustin's smile fades and he gives Lucas a dirty look.

LUCAS (CONT'D): Dustin farted.

Lucas blows a raspberry.

DUSTIN: Okay. Very mature, Lucas.

LUCAS: Dustin farted.

Lucas blows a raspberry.

DUSTIN: Oh.

JONATHAN: Will.

LUCAS: Dustin farted.

DUSTIN: Shut up.

JONATHAN: Come on.

LUCAS: Dustin farted.

Will stands up, grabbing his bag and moving to follow Jonathan up the stairs.

WILL: Bye, guys.

DUSTIN: Bye, Will.

LUCAS: See you, Will.

MIKE: Bye, Will.

Dustin gets up and rounds the table. He gives Lucas a soft push. Lucas stands up. The pair start to play fight.

DUSTIN: Stop.

LUCAS: No, you stop.

DUSTIN: No, you stop.

Dustin gets Lucas in a chokehold. They both grunt. Mike turns and looks at the empty fort.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Yeah, scream! You're like a little girl.

The camera slowly pans towards the. Mike's Supercomm sits at the entrance. Mike looks sad. Dustin and Lucas continue fighting in the background.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Jonathan and Will round the corner, walking through.

JONATHAN: So, you have fun?

WILL: Yeah.

KAREN: Hey, boys.

WILL: Hi.

JONATHAN: Hey, Mrs. Wheeler.

KAREN: Hey, wish your mum a merry Christmas for me, okay?

WILL: Yeah.

JONATHAN: Yeah, thank you. Uh, merry Christmas.

KAREN: Merry Christmas.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FOYER – NIGHT

Jonathan and Will head to the front door.

JONATHAN: So, uh, you win?

WILL: Yeah.

JONATHAN: Awesome.

NANCY (O.S.): Hey, Jonathan, wait up.

Jonathan turns to see Nancy run down the stairs. She holds a gift in her hands. Jonathan stops as she approaches. Nancy holds the gift out to him.

JONATHAN: Uh...

NANCY: Merry Christmas.

Jonathan takes the gift, looking a little confused and awkward.

JONATHAN: Thanks, um...I...I didn't get you anything. I...I feel bad.

NANCY: No. No, it's, uh, it's not really a present. It's, um...well, you'll see.

Nancy leans forward and kisses Jonathan's cheek. She looks slightly embarrassed. Jonathan smiles.

JONATHAN: Merry Christmas.

Jonathan turns to face Will.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): You ready? Let's go.

WILL: Yeah.

INT. JONATHAN'S CAR

Will hops into the passenger seat. Jonathan hops into the driver's seat, putting the gift in the seat between them.

JONATHAN: All right. Buckle up.

Will fixes his seatbelt. He spots the gift next to him.

WILL: Can I open it?

JONATHAN: Yeah, sure.

Will grabs the gift and unwraps it.

WILL: Whoa. Pretty cool.

Will shows the gift to Jonathan. It's a new camera. Jonathan smiles, briefly looking past Will to the Wheeler house.

JONATHAN: Yeah. Yeah, pretty cool.

Jonathan starts the car. They drive off.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Ted lays on the La-Z-Boy, asleep. Nancy sits on the couch next to Steve, leaning into his side and looking at the TV. He smiles at her.

STEVE: Did you give it to him?

Nancy glances up at Steve.

NANCY: Yeah.

Nancy looks back at the TV. Steve smiles, looking at the TV and holding Nancy's hand.

INT. HAWKINS POLICE STATION – JOINT OFFICE AREA – NIGHT

The Christmas party is in full swing. Hopper zips up his jacket, hat already on. He grabs a Tupperware container and moves to the food table, filling the Tupperware container with food. Powell and Callahan notice.

POWELL: You leaving already, Chief?

HOPPER: Oh, come on, you think I actually wanted to come to this thing? I was just hungry.

CALLAHAN: Oh, yeah, that's the spirit.

Hopper moves away from the table and starts to head towards the door.

HOPPER: Well, your wife doesn't have time to cook for me, you know what I'm saying?

Hopper stops next to Florence. She takes the cigarette out of his mouth and pats his chest.

FLORENCE: Merry Christmas, Hop.

Hopper smiles.

HOPPER: Mmm.

Hopper chuckles before walking to the door.

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – NIGHT

Hopper pulls over, turning off his car and getting out. He carries the Tupperware container and a torch.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – NIGHT

Hopper walks through, heading to a small lockbox. He kneels down in front of the box, lifting the lid and placing the Tupperware container inside. He reaches into his jacket pocket and takes out a glad-wrapped pile of Eggos, placing them on top of the Tupperware container. He closes the lid. Hopper looks into the distance for a few moments before grabbing his torch and standing up, walking away from the box.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Christmas music plays softly in the background. Chester sneaks a few pieces of ham off the counter and runs away.

JONATHAN (O.S.): What you got there? That one of yours?

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Will sits next to the Christmas tree, feeling presents. Jonathan takes photos of him.

WILL: Yeah.

JONATHAN: Looks pretty big.

Joyce rounds the couch and heads towards the dining room.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Be careful. You'll break it.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce walks into the dining room from the kitchen, placing two bowls of food on the table. Jonathan takes a photo of her. Joyce holds up her hands, looking awkward.

JOYCE: What are you...what are you doing?

JONATHAN: Documenting.

JOYCE: Oh, why?

JONATHAN: Because...

Jonathan takes another photo.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): It looks great.

JOYCE: Oh, this is just so overcooked.

Joyce picks up a spoonful of mashed potatoes and lets it run back into the bowl.

JOYCE (CONT'D): And look, the potatoes are runny.

JONATHAN: Mum.

JOYCE: They're so runny.

Jonathan moves to stand next to Joyce, putting a hand on her back.

JONATHAN: Mum, it's gonna be great.

WILL: It's definitely an Atari.

JOYCE: An a-what-i?

Will sits down at the table. Joyce and Jonathan join him.

WILL: The green present. It's an Atari. I felt Dustin's today. It's the same exact weight.

Joyce and Jonathan share a look.

JONATHAN: Really? Well...

WILL: Yeah.

JOYCE: We'll have to see, won't we?

Will suddenly stands up and starts to walk away from the table.

JOYCE (CONT'D): Hey, no more snooping.

Will heads towards the bathroom.

WILL: No, I forgot to wash my hands. I'll be right back.

JOYCE: Okay.

Joyce looks at Jonathan.

JOYCE (CONT'D): (softly) He's washing his hands?

Joyce and Jonathan chuckle.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – BATHROOM – NIGHT

Will stands at the sink, looking at himself in the mirror. He looks like he's about to throw up. He starts coughing and leans over the sink. He retches and coughs up a larva. It slithers down the drain. Will looks up at the mirror, breathing heavily. He turns the sink on, groaning. The world flickers, and suddenly it looks like the Upside Down. Will looks around in fear. The world flickers again, and it's suddenly back to normal. Will looks at himself in the mirror. He turns the water off. Will looks around.

INT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

Jonathan and Joyce are laughing while eating their food.

JONATHAN: Thanks.

Will quickly walks into the room, sitting down and trying to act like nothing is wrong. Joyce notices that something is off.

JOYCE: Are you okay?

WILL: Yeah, I'm okay.

JONATHAN: Mmm. Very good, Mum.

Will starts to dig into his food. The camera starts to back away from the Byers as they sit around the table.

JONATHAN (CONT'D): Mmm. Hey, Mum. Did Will tell you about, uh, the game?

WILL: Oh, yeah.

JOYCE: No. What game?

WILL: I threw a Fireball at him and...

Will mimics an explosion.

WILL (CONT'D): Dead.

JOYCE: Wait, what is...you mean, this is...

WILL: No, it's just Dungeons & Dragons.

JOYCE: Dungeons & Dragons. Right.

WILL: It's fun.

EXT. BYERS HOUSE (HAWKINS) – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

The camera passes through the window. It continues to back away from the Byers, who are no longer audible as they speak.

CUT TO END TITLE CARD. STRANGER THINGS.

END EPISODE.

END SEASON ONE.